Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1656 - May 8 2009

ATTENTION: DUE TO BREAKING NEWS THIS IS AN EXTENDED LENGTH NEWSCAST RUNNING 34MINUTES AND 55 SECONDS AND CONTAINING 3 BREAKS

The following is a closed circuit advisory. Ladies and gentlemen, Amateur Radio Newsline's Support Fund Administrator Andy Jarema, N6TCQ:

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OK, you all know why I am here. Its spring and all the bills from last winter have been mounting up. And, as usual, there is really not very much left in the treasury to pay them. Eventually they have got to get paid or these news reports will cease. That time is now.

So we ask that you take a few moments to send a donation to the Amateur Radio Newsline support fund so that we can keep these newscasts coming your way. Making a contribution is only a mouse click away if you have Pay Pal. Just go to www.arnewsline.org and click on the button at the top of the page marked "Make Donation." Or you can send in a donation to the Amateur Radio Newsline Support Fund, Post Office Box 660937, Arcadia California, 91066.

Whichever way you choose, the all volunteer crew at the Amateur Radio Newsline will be eternally grateful and these newscasts will be here for you..

Once again that's the Amateur Radio Newsline Support Fund, Post Office Box 660937, Arcadia California, 91066. Or by Pay Pal at www.arnewsline.org

For the Support Fund, I'm Andy Jarema, N6TCQ.

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Thank you Andy. Now, Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1656 with a release date of Friday, May 8th, 2009 to follow in 54321.

The following is a Q-S-T. Congress says its time for the FCC to change and two congressmen introduce legislation to begin the process. Also, another conspirator in the murder at sea of two hams is sentenced to death, the FCC sides with a deceased hams son in reassigning a call and a preview of Hamvention 2009's forums that tell us all to dream. Find out the details on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1656 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

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RADIO LAW: CONGRESSIONAL BILL TO REFORM FCC INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE

Congress is taking a hard look at the way in which the FCC operates with an eye at changing the way the regulatory agency does business. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the Newsroom with the rest of the story:

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A bill to change the way that the FCC approaches all regulatory matters has been introduced in the United States House of Representatives. Sponsored by representatives Joe Barton of Texas and Cliff Stearns of Florida, H.R. 2183 seeks to reform some of the Federal Communications Commission's regulatory processes.

Among the matters that H.R. 2183 addresses is a requirement that would force the FCC to let the public see any and all proposed rules and rules changes before it adopts them. Also, that the agency would be forced to provide everyone with a realistic amount of time to comment. In this area, the measure would require the FCC to provide at least 30 days for comments and an additional 30 days for replies on the published language of proposed rules.

The measure would also give the FCC only 30 days from adoption of a policy to release the actual text of the decision.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, Wa6ITF, in the studio in Los Angeles

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According to the wording of the bill Representatives Barton and Stearns want to require the agency to publish weekly the items being circulated among the Commissioners for a vote,. They also want to name any commissioner who has not voted on a given item. For ham radio it would mean knowing more about what the FCC is thinking in regard to changes in our service instead of having to second guess what the future might bring. (RW)

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RADIO LAW: CONGRESS LOOKS AT HAM RADIO EMCOMM RESPONSE MEASURE

Congress is taking a look at the valuable role that ham radio plays in times of natural or man made disasters. This, after U.S Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee of Texas has introduces HR 2160 in the US House of Representatives.

Better known as the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009, HR 2160 would promote and encourage the valuable public service, disaster relief, and emergency communications provided on a volunteer basis by licensees in the Amateur Radio Service. This, by undertaking a study of the uses of Amateur Radio for emergency and disaster relief communications.

The study would also identify unnecessary or unreasonable impediments to the deployment of Amateur Radio emergency and disaster relief communications. It would also make recommendations for relief of any such unreasonable restrictions so as to expand the uses of Amateur Radio communications in Homeland Security planning and response.

HR 2160 has been referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. If

enacted into law, the measure would instruct the Secretary of Homeland Security to undertake its own study and report its findings to Congress within 180 days. That study would also spell out the capabilities and specific uses of amateur radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief situations. (ARRL)

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RADIO JUSTICE: THIRD DEFENDANT IN HAM RADIO MURDER CASE SENTENCED TO DEATH

Another death sentence in the murder of two hams at sea. Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reports:

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A Southern California man has become the second person sentenced to die for the murders of a retired ham radio couple who were tied to an anchor and thrown off their yacht. This as Orange County California Superior Court Judge Frank Fasel condemns 43-year-old John Fitzgerald Kennedy to die by lethal injection for his part in the murders at sea of Thomas and Jackie Hawks, KD7VWJ and KD7VWK.

The supreme penalty was handed down by Judge Fasel on Friday, May 1st. This, after the same jury that had convicted Kennedy in February of two counts of special-circumstances murder had recommended death.

As previously reported, Kennedy's co-defendant, Skylar Deleon, was sentenced to death in the same two murders. Automatic appeals will likely delay the sentences to be carried out for some time. In California its currently an average of 8 to 13 years or longer between a judge sentencing a convicted felon to death and carrying out of a death sentence no matter how heinous the crime.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

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Deleon's ex-wife Jennifer Henderson was convicted in the murders in 2006 and sentenced to life in prison. A fourth co-defendant still faces trial in this case. (Published news reports)

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RADIO LAW: THAT CALL BELONGS TO THE SON

The FCC has denied a petition for reconsideration filed by Mr. Richard E. Essen, N6CX, of Silver Spring, Maryland, to be awarded the vanity call sign W3ZD. This, after a relative of the calls original holder exercised his right of survivorship and the FCC agreed. Heres the back story.

On December 22, 2006, Winfield C. Brantley surrendered amateur call sign W3ZD upon the grant of his application for a different call. A surrendered call sign generally is not available to the vanity call

sign system for two years, but the Commission's Rules provides an exception for certain relatives of a deceased former holder of the call sign.

On December 10, 2008, Allan B. Corderman filed an application for call sign W3ZD. In his application, he stated that he is the son of a deceased former holder of the call sign. Commission staff has verified that call sign W3ZD was previously held by Roy C. Corderman, now deceased. Because of this Allan B. Corderman's application was granted on December 30, 2008.

On January 8, 2009, Essen requested reconsideration of the grant. He argued that the application should not have been granted because the exception in the FCC rules applies only to close survivors of the most recent person to hold the call sign, and not to close relatives of any deceased prior holder.

But the FCC says that's not the case. It says that when the agency adopted its rules dealing with call sign survivorship it stated that it was granting priority to close relatives of any and all deceased holders. That it did not say that the priority applied only to close relatives of certain deceased holders.

The FCC says that its rule has always been interpreted to afford priority to close relatives of any deceased former holder. Consequently, it concludes that Allan B. Corderman's application was properly granted, and has now dismissed Essen's petition for reconsideration. (FCC)

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BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the NS9RC repeater of the North Shore Radio Club serving Highland Park, Illinois.

(5 sec pause here)

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RADIO LAW: FCC RETURNS W8WX TO MICHIGAN SKYWARN GROUP

The FCC says that the callsign W8WX has been the property of a Michigan Skywarn group since 1999 and it has now returned to that group. This, after another ham tried to get it for a similar named group in Ohio. Burt Hicks, WB6MQV, is here with the rest of the story:

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Way back on January 28, 1999, the Commission granted the W8WX call sign and club station license to the Lucas County Skywarn in Temperance, Michigan. Hermon R. Kibler, WD8ABZ, was identified as the club station trustee.

About 9 years later on March 19, 2008, Becky Eby, KC8ZNX, filed an application requesting that the license be amended to show her as the calls trustee and that the club's mailing address of the club be changed to one in Toledo, Ohio.

The FCC granted that application on March 19, 2008. After learning about the change on June 2nd 2008, WD8ABZ filed objections claiming that he was still the trustee for W8WX. He asked that the license be restored to him.

So, on June 30th, 2008, the FCC asked Eby to prove that she had been designated as the new trustee of W8WX. Eby replied on July 12th, 2008, that she was asked to be the trustee of the call by an officer of the club on January 29, 2008 at a meting of the Lucas County Skywarn. She also provided the meeting minutes and other documentation. Eby also told the FCC that she had been a member of Lucas County Ohio Skywarn since 2005, but the documents submitted show that the Lucas County Skywarn in Ohio was established on January 29, 2008.

On August 4, 2008, Kibler told the FCC that the Lucas County Ohio Skywarn did not and has not ever had anything to do with the Lucas County Michigan Skywarn. This past January Kibler filed an application to renew the license for W8WX and restore it to his name and address. On March 6, 2009, Eby amended that application to show her name and address. Kibler objected to the amendment on March 18th.

Now the FCC has found that Eby was not authorized to change the club trustee and address of W8WX. As a result, W8WX was restored to the Lucas County Michigan Skywarn radio club with Kibler as trustee. At airtime its unknown if Eby plans to file an sort of an appeal.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Burt Hicks, WB6MQV.

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And there is a rather interesting sidebar to this story. It seems that there is no Lucas County in Michigan. Temperance Michigan, to where the W8WX call is assigned, is just across the state line from Lucas County Ohio. The town of Temperance in Monroe County, Michigan. Confusing, isn't it? (FCC Order on Petition for Reconsideration, adopted April 15, 2009.)

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HAMVENTION NEWS: A PREWIEW OF FORUMS TO DREAM ABOUT

The Dayton Hamvention is less than a week away its time to take a peak at what attendees will be able to expect. Of coarse all of the big names in ham radio manufacturing will be there to show the latest and greatest gear. And those in the massive Flea Market will have the oldest and boldest of ham radios historical equipment up for sale.

But a good number of attendees consider Hamvention a learning experience and for 2009 they will not be disappointed. Michael Kalter, W8CI, is a Hamvention spokesman who recently was interviewed by Hap Holly, KC9RP, of RAIN:

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Kalter: (Audio report only. Please download the MP3 version of this weeks newscast at www.arnewsline.org to hear it.)

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In all, Kalter says that there will be some 45 different forums for those who come to Hamvention to learn. All they have to do is get there and dream. More with Michael Kalter, W8CI is on line at www.Therainreport.com. (RAIN, ARNewsline(tm))

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HAMVENTION NEWS: ARNEWSLINE AT HAMVENTION 2009

And less we forget to mention, we of Amateur Radio Newsline will also be at Hamvention 2009. In addition to gathering news for upcoming reports we will again be hosting the annual Ham Radio Town Meeting. This year's topic is titled "A Lifetime of Careers." It will show how becoming a ham as a teen or pre-teen affected the lives and adult careers of several well known radio amateurs. In reality, its really a story of how ham radio can open up doors to success that no other hobby can.

We will be holding this years Ham radio Town Meeting on Saturday, May 16th from 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Hamvention Meeting Room 2 at the Hara Arena. Among this years speakers is the broadcast engineer who brought frequency coordination to major league sports. Also, with us will be the ham who helped the movie character "ET" to "phone home" and a career aviator who has operated around the globe.

There will also be a special appearance by ham radio's own Mr. Audio, Bob Heil, K9EID. Bob will explain why he is kind of the poster child for amateur radio and how the hobby made him the successful inventor and businessman he is today.

So come and enjoy a few hours with us learning how being a kid ham can lead to a life of success as an adult. Also, if you have children of your own, bring them along to hear some inspiring words on how their lives might benefit as well.

Again, that's on Saturday, May 16th from 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Hamvention Meeting Room 2 at the Hara Arena for this years Ham Radio Town Meeting. We hope to see many of you there. (ARNewsline(tm))

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RESCUE RADIO: PACKETEERS TO HOLD GOLDEN PACKET EVENT

Packet operators and VHF rover stations will attempt the first ever Appalachian Trail Golden Packet event on Sunday, July 26th. The goal is to relay packet text messages the full 2000 mile length of the Appalachian Trail using 14 packet relay stations carried to the tops of

some of the highest peaks in the Eastern United States.

This long linear demonstration will hopefully show the power of packet radio to re-constitute emergency communications into an area where normal communications capabilities can easily be lost. It will also demonstrate how easily a ham radio data network can be established using nothing more than a typical APRS mobile radio installation that's driven to the highest available spot in any given area.

More information about the Appalachian Trail Golden Packet event is on line at www.aprs.org. (WB4APR)

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RADIO POLITICS: MIGNON CLYBURN TO BE NOMINATED AS FCC COMISSIONER

President Barack Obama has announced he intends to nominate Mignon Clyburn to the commission. The daughter of one of the most powerful members of Congress, House Majority Whip James Clyburn, Mignon Clyburn is in her 11th year serving as a South Carolina public service commissioner..

According to the commissions Web site, it has regulatory jurisdiction over investor-owned electric and gas utility companies; water and wastewater companies, telecommunications companies, motor carriers of household goods, hazardous waste disposal, and taxicabs. She is a 1984 graduate of the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Science degree in Banking, Finance and Economics.

Prior to coming to the South Carolina Public Service Commission she was publisher and general manager of the now-defunct "The Coastal Times," This was an African-American weekly newspaper in Charleston, South Carolina.

If confirmed by the Senate, she would fill the Democratic seat being vacated by Jonathan Adelstein, who's headed to the Rural Utilities Service in the Agriculture Department to help roll out broadband in areas away from major metropolitan areas. (Published reports, FCC web)

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RADIO LICENSING: HAM TRAINING AT RIVERSIDE COUNTY CA HOMELESS SHELTER

Ham radio will be taught in a California homeless shelter beginning on June 4th. This according to Chris Kahn, KG6KZP, who will be the instructor for the course with assistance from Radio School's Gordon West, WB6NOA.

Chris tells Newsline that it all began when some of the shelter staff members approached him about getting their Amateur service tickets. The shelter, which is in Riverside County, California, also serves as an Emergency Operations Center serving several communities including the region surrounding Palm Springs.

Chris says that while the class is primarily for those volunteering and working at the shelter, he is opening it up to anyone who wants to get

their entry level license. This includes those living at the shelter.

If you live in or near the area and want to take part in this training or know someone who wants to get a ham license, feel free to call Chris Kahn at (760) 327-8577. Or you can contact him by e-mail to chriskahnkg6kzp (at) yahoo (dot) com. (KG6KZP)

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BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

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THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD: SANDY DONAHUE, W4RU - S.K.

A longtime friend of the Amateur Radio Newsline and an ex-officio member of our Young Ham of the Year Award team has become a silent key. This with word that Nelson Sandy Donahue, W4RU, passed away in his sleep early on May 4th.

We first met Sandy in the mid 1980's. He was still WA4ABY back then and called asking if someone from Newsline could come and speak at a ham radio convention in Atlanta. One that he was spearheading for the Georgia Tech Radio Club.

Our Producer Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, flew in and the two quickly became close friends. And so it was that when the Young Ham of the Year Award presentation ceremony moved to its permanent home at the Huntsville Hamfest, Sandy offered to get there early to make sure all was ready for the arrival of each years young ham award winner. As such he became the unofficial greater for the award program and more than once footed the entire cost for all attending the dinner for the years young honoree.

But Sandy's service to ham radio was not limited to assisting us. First licensed at age 15, Sandy Donahue served as ARRL Georgia Section Manager from 1997 to 2001. He became the League's Southeastern Division Vice Director in 2002 and has held that position ever since. In fact, Sandy spent the last weekend of his life manning the ARRL booth and representing the ARRL at the Birmingham, Alabama hamfest. It was a labor of love that W4RU was devoted to.

A few years ago after retiring form his job at an Atlanta TV station and suffering some health issues, Sandy relocated to the town of Dothan, Alabama. It was a place that he once described to WA6ITF as being the exact opposite of what Atlanta was. He said that Dolthan was a nice, quiet, peaceful and a good place to live. And it was in his adopted hometown of Dolthan that Sandy became a Silent Key at age 63.

Sandy Donahue, W4RU, was a very special friend to many of us here at the Amateur Radio Newsline. Because of this, his memory will live on with us, and with all of those whose lives he touched with his positive outlook on life.

Graveside services for Sandy Donahue, W4RU, were to be held at 4 PM at Sunset Memorial Park, 1700 Barrington Road, Midland City, Alabama. An special memorial service will be held in conjunction with the Atlanta Hamfest on June 6, 2009 at 1 PM. (ARNewsline with information also provided by the ARRL and WA4AW)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ARISS AT 25 CERTIFICATE

Turning to ham radio space related news, if you heard or contacted the ham radio station on board the I-S-S using any of its modes, between November 30, 2008 to January 15, 2009 you qualify to receive an ARISS 25th Year Commemorative Certificate. To get one, please send a QSL with all of the normal information and note the ARISS mode of operation. Also, whether the contact with you was receive only or two-way. On the outside of the QSL envelope, please include the words "25th Anniversary Certificate" and include a self addressed stamped envelope large enough to accept an 8.5 by 11 inch certificate and includes the proper postage. Please refer to www.ariss.org for addresses where to send your QSL and for additional details. (ARISS)

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THE SOCIAL SCENE: MARYLAND FM ASSN MEMORIAL DAY HAMFEST

Turning to the ham radio social scene, word that the Maryland F.M. Association will be holding its annual Memorial Day Hamfest on Sunday, May 24th. The venue is the Howard County Fairgrounds, in West Friendship, Maryland from 8 am to 1 p.m. with setup beginning at 6 am. All times are local Eastern U-S. More is on-line at www.marylandfm.org (WA3MNN)

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EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: NEILSEN SAYS TWITTER HAS MORE QUITTERS THAN JOINERS

Ham radio has nothing to fear from the Twitter instant messaging social network. The Chicago Tribune reported on May 1st reported on a recent Neilsen Online survey that found the number of people leaving Twitter after just one month outnumber the new arrivals by a margin of 3 to 2.

David Martin is Nielsen's vice president of primary research. He says that if Twitter's user retention rates don't do better than the current 40 percent, the service simply won't be able to grow into the Internet social networking giants such as MySpace and Facebook.

According to Neilsen, in March, Facebook saw 69.2 million unique users, representing 41 percent of the U.S. Web audience. MySpace had 55.9 million, or 33 percent. But despite its initial rapid growth Twitter,

lagged far behind, at 13.9 million users and 8.2 percent.

No reason was given to explain the massive defection from Twitter but Neilsen's Martin says that if 60 percent continue to quit from one month to the next, the inability to replace defectors suggests a natural limit to growth with Twitter. He expects for it to max out at about 10 percent of the U.S. Internet audience.

As to ham radio, while nobody does regular research on the retention rate in the hobby, it appears to be well above 85 to 90 percent, month to month. (RW, Chicago Tribune, others)

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NAMES IN THE NEWS: W0CP INDUCTED INTO CE HALL OF FAME

Some names in the news. First up is former ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director Walt Stinson, W0CPP. He is among industry leaders receiving honors this year from the consumer electronics industry. This as he is named as an inductee into the 2009 Consumer Electronics Hall of Fame.

In addition to his years of service to ham radio, W0CP is president and co-founder of the Denver Colorado based Listen Up audio/video specialty chain and also co-founded the Professional Audio Video Retailer's Association in 1979. ListenUp Corporation employs over 100 people and operates three consumer electronics stores in Colorado, an e-commerce website, a design center, a professional showroom, and a repair center. In addition the company designs, installs, and services everything from simple stereo systems to home theaters, large scale public address systems, board room multi-media systems, networks, automation, lighting control, telephones, and security.

Also being inducted this year is Dr. Irwin M. Jacobs. He was the co-founder of Qualcomm Corporation and the man who led the commercialization of CDMA technology. Also recognized for their contributions to communications and consumer electronics are the team of Karl Hassel and Ralph Mathews. They were the founders of the Chicago Radio Laboratory, which later became Zenith Radio.

They and the other inductees will be honored at a ceremony during CEA's Industry Forum in Phoenix, Arizona, this fall. (EIA)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VK5ZAI RECEIVES CHRIS JONES AWARD FOR DEDICATION TO ARISS

And congratulations to Tony Hutchison, VK5ZAI on his selection as this years recipient of the Chris Jones Award. This Australia based prize honors the memory of the late Chris Jones VK2ZDD whom the Wireless Institute of Australia describes as a radio amateur who was dedicated to the advancement of the service and whose unfailing courtesy and genuine friendliness is fondly remembered by all who knew him.

Tony Hutchinson was chosen based on his eight years of dedication to

providing ground to space communications to the International Space Station for contacts with children in classrooms around the world. VK5ZAI serves as both the ARISS Coordinator for the Asia Pacific Region and Wireless Institute of Australia's ARISS Coordinator as well. (WIA)

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WORLDBEAT: FOUR YOUNG HAMS NAMED WINNERS OF RADIO ARCALA ESSAY CONTEST

Last February that the team at Radio Arcala, OH8X, launched an essay contest. One aimed at getting some fresh ideas from today's youth, and their elders o boost recruitment into to the ranks of amateur radio.

There were numerous entries and now the multinational jury has picked the winners with first place going to a 19-year-old from the U-K named Mark Dumpleton, 2-E-Zero-N-C-G.

Two US hams, John Scott Anderson, KC9OQO, and Brian Wood, W0DZ, finished in second and third place respectively. Argentinean Diego Salom, LU8DX was recognized for his submission of the best Spanish language piece.

You can read Dumpleton's article and his interview at www.radioarcala.com. It can be found at the screen button marked "Young People Terms." (GB2RS, Southgate)

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WORLDBEAT: MALAYSIA KEEN ON HAM RADIO AS TEACHING TOOL

Malaysia's Star On Line newspaper has just published a story on how students are improving their English skills using Amateur radio. According to the news article, students were introduced to the world of ham radio when they were given the opportunity to listen to a live conversation between astronauts from the International Space Satellite. One 15 year old student commented that she was amazed to hear the astronauts talking to each other through such a small radio. (Malaysia Star)

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BREAK 3

We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 Second pause here)

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RADIO EXPERIMENTS: UK TO VE MARCONI DAY SUCCESS

A big success for Marconi Day 2009. Jeramy Boot, G4NJH, reports from Nottingham in the U-K:

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This year, on Marconi Day, a Marconi official station using Marconi equipment completed a radio contact that was similar to those Marconi himself achieved many years ago.

During the late hours of Friday 24th and the early hours of Saturday 25th April, GB4FPR was operated from the Fort Perch Rock Marine Radio Museum in the Wirral. Using a newly obtained 501kHz to 504kHz Notice of Variation license, they managed a transatlantic QSO on 502kHz with a station in St. John's, Newfoundland. The operators used Marconi marine equipment and Morse and received a 539 report from V01MRC.

It was a crossband QSO with GB4FPR transmitting 1 watt ERP on 502kHz and receiving the Canadian station on 3566kHz.

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And this historic note: Fort Perch Rock from there the U-K Marconi station operated for this event was first built as a coastal defense battery during the Napoleonic era. This, to protect the Port of Liverpool. G-4-N-J-H says that it is open all year round and features museums, exhibitions and of coarse a tea-room. Definitely a nice place from where to call a CQ. (GB2RS)

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DX

In DX word that JA1NLX, will be active as 3D2YA from Mana Island in Mamanuca Group between June 29th and July 3rd. Listen out for him on 80 through 10 meters using CW and RTTY. QSL via his home callsign, by the Bureau or direct with an SASE.

AH2Y and WX8C will be active from Guam as AH2Y during the CQWW WPX CW Contest that takes place May 30th to the 31st. QSL via Logbook to the World or direct to HL1IWD.

K8AQM, reports that the QSL route for the V63TR 2008 operation is no longer K5ZM. From this point on, QSL V63TR only to K8AQM.

LA9QNA will be active as JW9QNAfrom the JW5E club station in Svalbard between July 17th to the 22nd. Activity will include entries in the North American RTTY QSO Party and the CQ World Wide VHF Contest. QSL via LA9QNA.

Members of the Scandinavian YL Radio Amateurs report that they are planning an expedition to a part of remote but still accessible part of Norway. The operation will take place after the groups meeting near Oslo slated September 3d to the 6th. More information is on-line at www dot slyra dot is.

Herbert Aeby, HB9BOU, is now the single, official, coordinated source for 4U1UN QSL cards. He has all available log books, both the old paper and more recent computer logs. He and his team are reported to

provide a very conscientious QSL service. His address is good in the Callbook and on most on-line call directories.

Their plans are to get a group of YL operators (and possibly their OM) to activate the Longyearbyen radio station from Svalbard between September 6-13th. They have already received the callsign JW1SYL for the operation.

Lastly IW0HEX has told the Ohio Penn DX newsletter that his callsign appears to have been pirated. He says that that he has been receiving QSL cards via the bureau for portable 5Z4 operation from August 2008 on 30 meter CW. He tells the O-P-D-X that he has never been in Kenya and this is someone abusing his callsign. He wont be returning QSL cards to anyone who sends them to him for that non-existent operation.

(Above from various DX news sources)

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THAT FINAL ITEM: THE OLD VS NEW IRC

And finally this week, for those who like to stockpile International Reply Coupons or IRC's for QSL'ing purposes, listen up. This information is for you. Graham Kemp, VK4BB, of the WIA News, has the details:

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The current IRC will expire at the end of year. Unlike the old style coupons, the current types all have an expiration date giving them a maximum life of 3 years. Even if you purchased a current IRC today, they will still expire on December 31, 2009.

Ken, ZL2HU, advises us on the following information from the International Postal Union in Geneva:

"The current issue (Beijing 2) IRC may be exchanged up to 31 December 2009 (date printed on coupon). In principle, Beijing 2 coupons will no longer be sold from 31 August 2009.

"The new international reply coupon (Nairobi model) is due to go on sale from 1 July 2009, and will be valid for exchange until 31 December 2013."

Ken states, "So make sure you aren't holding any of the Beijing 2 coupons at the end of this year."

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm GFraham Kemp, VK4BB, in Australia.

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To see what the new International Reply Coupon looks like, go to the U-R-L found at http://www.upu.int/news_centre/2008/en/2008-08-08_irc.shtml (WIA News)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2009 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Complete details are on our website at www.arnewsline.org Just scroll down to the words "2009 YHOTY Nominations Now Open" and click for more information and an official nominating form.

Also, due to travel by Newsline's volunteers to Dayton, next weeks newscast will be released one day early on Thursday, May 14th. Look for it on line and on the phone then.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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